

Applicants : Artemio Affaticati and Claudio Cerutti
Serial No. : 10/796,877
Page : 13

REMARKS

The amendments and remarks presented herein are believed to be fully responsive to the recent Office Action. Reconsideration is requested.

Disposition of Claims.

Claims 16-33, 58-67, 83-98 and 121-133 were pending in the application. Claims 58-67 and 121-133 were withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Claims 16, 58-67, 83 and 121-133 are hereby cancelled. New claims 134-153 are added. Accordingly, claims 17-33, 84-98 and 134-153 remain in the application.

Claim Rejection – 35 U.S.C. § 112.

Claims 17, 18 and 83-98 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 17 and 83 were rejected for lacking antecedent basis. These claims are amended to provide proper antecedent basis. Claims 32, 33, 97 and 98 were rejected because the claims allegedly failed to correspond in scope with that which Applicants regard as their invention. Without acquiescing in the basis for the rejection, claims 32, 33, 97 and 98 are amended in a manner which is believed to overcome the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter.

The undersigned gratefully acknowledges the indication that claims 19-23 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 17, 18 and 84-88 are indicated as being allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 17, 19, 84 and 86 are rewritten in this manner. The remaining claims are amended to be dependent upon one of the rewritten claims as a base claim. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 16-33, 84-98 and 134-153 are in a condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Applicants : Artemio Affaticati and Claudio Cerutti
Serial No. : 10/796,877
Page : 14

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Claims 16, 24-33, 83 and 89-98 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent 5,588,520 issued to Affaticati et al. The rejection is traverse. However, the rejection is moot in light of actions taken by the Applicants as set forth above. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.


If Examiner Deuble has any questions or reservations, it is requested that Examiner Deuble call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

ARTEMIO AFFATICATI and CLAUDIO CERUTTI

By: Van Dyke, Gardner, Linn & Burkhardt, LLP

Dated: February 15, 2005.


Frederick S. Burkhardt
Registration No. 29 288
2851 Charlevoix Drive, S.E., Suite 207
Post Office Box 888695
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49588-8695
(616) 988-4104

FSB:djr
RAP04 P-610B